### MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_

Property Name: Harry Footer and Company Cleaners	Inventory Number: AL-V-B-345
Address: 918 National Highway (ALT US 40)	Historic district: yes X no
City: LaVale Zip Code: 21502	County: Allegany
USGS Quadrangle(s): Cumberland	
Property Owner: Howard and Kathleen Pallik	Tax Account ID Number: 025711
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 5 Tax Map Numb	er: 8V
Project: ALT US 40: Streetscape Improvements, LaVale Agence	y: Maryland State Highway Administration
Agency Prepared By: A.D. Marble & Company	
Preparer's Name: Catherine Dluzak/Babara Frederick/Emma Young	Date Prepared: 3/27/2006
Documentation is presented in: Allegany County Courthouse	
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: Eligibility recommended	X Eligibility not recommended
Criteria:ABCD Considerations:A	BCDEFG
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource	e to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property:	
Inventory Number: Eligible:ye	s Listed: yes
Site visit by MHT Staff yes X no Name:	Date:
Description of Property and Justification: (Please attach map and photo)	
The Harry Footer and Company Cleaners, located at 918 National Highway (ALT is an altered example of mid-twentieth-century commercial/light industrial archite situated on the south side of National Highway (ALT US 40). The original L-shap oriented on a north-south axis.	cture. The circa-1950 structure faces north and is
For over 40 years, the building housed a dry cleaning and dyeworks operation. He the Harry Footer and Company Cleaners and has been converted to warehouse spareplaced with pedestrian doors for access to the warehouse space. Overall, the bu architectural description, history, and list of references, see the Maryland Inventor file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland).	ace. Two multi-light window bays have been ilding stands in fair condition. (For a detailed
Significance Evaluation	
Harry Footer and Company Cleaners, located at 918 National Highway (ALT US twentieth-century commercial property in LaVale, Allegany County, Maryland. T	
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended	<b>\</b>
Criteria:ABCD Considerations:A	_BCDEFG
MHT Comments:	
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	5/26/06 Date 5/29/06
Reviewer, National Register Program	Date

#### Harry Footer and Company Cleaners

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serve as a dry cleaners for the local community of LaVale, located along the National Highway (ALT US 40). Post-1964 alterations to the building, including the addition of a large neon sign to the façade and a number of additions to the east and rear (south) elevations, have significantly compromised the integrity of the resource and it does not retain sufficient integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the National Register.

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A, that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. that are associated with the lives of significant persons in our past; or
- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. that have yielded or may be likely to yield information important in history or prehistory.

Harry Footer and Company Cleaners is not eligible under Criterion A due to loss of integrity. This building is a remnant of midtwentieth-century commercial growth in LaVale. At one time, the property was flanked to the east and west by pre-1950 twentieth-century commercial properties; however, these properties are no longer extant, and the lots have since been replaced with modern buildings, resulting in loss of integrity of setting. Additionally, a number of alterations that post-date 1961 have been made to the Cleaners, affecting its ability to convey the appearance of a mid-twentieth-century commercial resource.

Harry Footer and Company Cleaners is not eligible under Criterion B. Although the origins of the company are tied to Harry Footer, a prominent early-twentieth-century Cumberland resident, Harry Footer had no association with the company shortly prior to and following Edward Pallik and Charles Zaks' purchase of the operation. Harry Footer was not associated with the operation when Pallik and Zaks erected the operation on the National Highway (ALT US 40). Edward Pallik and Charles Zaks have no known local historical importance.

Harry Footer and Company Cleaners is not eligible under Criterion C. This is an example of a mid-twentieth-century commercial building that was updated during the 1960s when the building was expanded and updated. The signage at the north (front) elevation, although in keeping with the original block, is the the most prominent architectural feature on the building and was added after 1964. The additions to the east and rear elevations were also made in the 1960s. While the building retains its original appearance at the northwest corner, with multi-light windows, the later additions are of a larger size and have somewhat compromised the building's architectural integrity. Therefore, Harry Footer and Company Cleaners is recommended not eligible under Criterion C.

Harry Footer and Company Cleaners was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of the current investigation.

The building retains sufficient integrity of location, retaining its corner location along the heavily-traveled National Highway (ALT US 40). The post-1960s additions have compromised the overall integrity of design of the original block, as they are significantly larger in size. The building retains some of its original windows in the original block, still a multi-light window on the north (front) elevation has been replaced by paired plate-glass windows, and two multi-light windows on the wing have been replaced with pedestrian doors. Integrity of feeling and association have been affected by the later additions and the loss of integrity of setting amidst other mid-twentieth-century commercial resources.

Eligibility r	ecommen	ded		Eli	gibility not recommen	ded						
Criteria:	A	В	C	D	Considerations:	A	B	c	D	E	F	G
MHT Com	ments:											
7 <u></u>	Review	er, Offic	e of Pres	servatio	on Services			Date				

AL-V-B-345 Harry Footer and Company Cleaners 918 National Highway (ALT US 40), LaVale ca. 1950 Private

The Harry Footer and Company Cleaners located at 918 National Highway (ALT US 40) in LaVale, Allegany County, Maryland, is an altered example of mid-twentieth-century commercial/light industrial architecture. The *circa*-1950 structure faces north. The original "L" shaped footprint remains intact, and the building is oriented on a north-south axis. The original building consists of a rectangular five-bay main block. A small, one-bay office addition is located at the southern corner of the main block. A post-1960, 11-bay wing extends off the east elevation, and a post-1960 four-bay concrete block addition extends from the main block's south elevation. The signage at the north (front) elevation, although in keeping with the original block, is the most prominent architectural feature on the building and was added after 1964.

Harry Footer and Company Cleaners is not eligible due to loss of integrity. This building is a remnant of mid-twentieth-century commercial growth in LaVale. A number of alterations that post-date 1960 have been made to the Cleaners, affecting its ability to convey the appearance of a mid-twentieth-century commercial resource.

### Inventory No. AL-V-B-345

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

historic	Harry Foo	oter and Company Cleaners				
other						
2. Location						
street and number	918 National H	ighway (ALT US 40)			2 <del></del>	not for publication
city, town	LaVale					vicinity
county	Allegany					
3. Owner of	Property	(give names and mailing a	ddresses of all	owners)		
name	Howard and Ka	thleen Pallik				
street and number	12303 Dressma	n Lane NW		teleph	none (	301) 777-3717
city, town	LaVale		state MD	zip co	de 2	21502
	Cumberland  ocation of	Allegany County Courth tax map 8V  F Additional Data  n National Register District	tax parcel	liber 558 5	folio 34 tax ID n	
5. Primary L Contr Contr Deter	Cumberland  Cumber	tax map 8V  F Additional Data  n National Register District n Local Historic District the National Register/Maryland r the National Register/Maryland	tax parcel	_		
Control Control Deter	Cumberland  ocation of ibuting Resource in ibuting Resource in immed Eligible for immed Ineligible for its ded by HABS/HAI inc Structure Report	tax map 8V  F Additional Data  n National Register District n Local Historic District the National Register/Maryland r the National Register/Maryland	tax parcel	_		
Contraction Contra	Cumberland  Cumber	tax map 8V  F Additional Data  In National Register District In Local Historic District Ithe National Register/Maryland In the National Register/Maryland In the National Register/Maryland In the National Register/Maryland	tax parcel	_		
Contr Contr Deter Reco Histor	Cumberland  Cumber	tax map 8V  F Additional Data  In National Register District In Local Historic District Ithe National Register/Maryland In the National Register/Maryland In the National Register/Maryland In the National Register/Maryland	tax parcel	Res Cor culture on gress		number 025711

7. Description	Inventory No. AL-V-B-345
Condition	
excellent deteriorated	

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Harry Footer and Company Cleaners located at 918 National Highway (ALT US 40) in LaVale, Allegany County, Maryland, is an altered example of mid-twentieth-century commercial/light industrial architecture. The building occupies an irregular shaped parcel consisting of Lots 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 36, 37, 53, 54 and 55 of the LaVale Home Addition. The building, now used for storage purposes, stands in good condition.

#### **Exterior Description**

Description

good

fair

ruins altered

The circa-1950 structure faces north and is situated on the south side of National Highway (ALT US 40). The original "L" shaped footprint remains intact, and the building is oriented on a north-south axis. The building consists of a rectangular five-bay main block; a small, one-bay office addition at the southern corner of the main block; an 11-bay wing extending off the east elevation; and a four-bay concrete block addition extending from the main block's south elevation. The building features multiple roof planes; brick and concrete block elevations; large, multi-light windows; and a hanging neon sign above the public entrance that faces National Highway (ALT US 40).

The main block of the building measures five bays wide and is laid out in a window-window-door-window pattern. The first three bays of the façade, or north elevation, consist of large, 20-light windows resting on brick sills. The fourth bay consists of a pedestrian wood door with a single, large light and a transom window which leads to the interior customer service space. The pedestrian entry is protected by a large, metal-clad, flat awning. A modern sign board supported by two metal poles rests on the roof of the awning. A post-1964 neon sign to the west appears to rest on the awning and is attached to the façade. The sign advertises "Harry Footer and Company Drive-In Cleaners." The tall turquoise sign, with curving at the upper corner, extends above the main block's flat roof. The fifth bay consists of two large plate glass windows resting on brick sills. A brick lintel extends the width of the fourth and fifth bays.

The northern half of the main block's west elevation is hidden by the office addition. The west elevation of the main block consists of two bays: a large, wood-paneled, overhead garage door; and a large, 15-light window with a brick sill. The east elevation of the main block consists of four, evenly spaced, large, 15-light windows with brick sills.

The north elevation of the office addition is flush with the main block's façade and consists of one 16-light window that is protected by a 12-light storm window. The west elevation of the office addition extends westward from the main block and consists of two, 16-light windows that are protected by 12-light storm windows. The south elevation of the office addition consists of one 16-light window that is protected by a 12-light storm window. A metal-clad flat roof with overhanging eaves protects the office addition. The overhanging eave also partially extends on the façade to protect a portion of the large plate glass windows located on the main block.

A one-story, four-bay, circa-1961 concrete block addition extends from the south elevation of the main block. The first three bays consist of large 12-light windows. The fourth bay consists of a vehicular opening that appears to be no longer in use. The opening is clad in metal and features six lights to give the appearance of an overhead garage door. A shed roof, supported by wood braces and attached at the bottom of the window bays, extends from the concrete block wall. The west elevation of the circa-1961 addition consists of paired, metal-clad pedestrian doors and a large 12-light window. The addition is protected by a flat roof. A brick chimney pierces the roof near the southeastern corner of the addition. No other elevations of the circa-1961 addition were visible during the site visit.

A one-story, 11-bay wing extends from the east elevation of the *circa*-1960 addition. The wing appears to predate the addition and was likely constructed about the same time as the building's main block. The wing rests on a poured concrete foundation. The north elevation consists of nine window bays and two pedestrian bays. The large, 12-light, metal windows rest on brick sills. The easternmost pedestrian bay, which originally served as a window, has been replaced by a modern, single-leaf, aluminum door. The westernmost pedestrian bay contains a single-leaf, three-light over three-panel, wood door. Decorative brick abutments are placed to the west of every second bay and group the bays into sets of two. The west elevation of the wing is comprised of three large, 12-light windows that rest on brick sills. The northernmost bay is partially obscured by large machinery. A metal stove pipe is located above

### Inventory No. AL-V-B-345

## Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Name Harry Footer and Company Cleaners
Continuation Sheet

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the window bay. The east elevation of the wing is comprised of six evenly spaced, 12-light windows that rest on brick sills. Mimicking the detailing on the north (front) elevation, every second bay is separated by decorative brick abutments.

The south elevation of the wing consists of three vehicular bays, four window bays, and a pedestrian bay. The window bays (or the first, second, seventh and eighth bays from the east) consist of large, 12-light windows that rest on brick sills. The third bay consists of an overhead, wood-paneled garage door with 12 lights. The fourth bay consists of large set of paired, eight-light doors. The fifth bay consists of a modern, single-leaf, metal-paneled pedestrian door. The sixth bay consists of an overhead, wood-paneled, eight-light garage door. The third and sixth vehicular bays are protected by pent roofs.

A *circa*-1961, three-bay garage is located southeast of the building. The façade is faced in brick, while the remaining elevations are concrete block. The brick-faced façade, or north elevation, consists of three vehicular bays. Each bay has an overhead, wood-paneled, 12-light garage door. The west elevation consists of five bays. The northernmost bay is a modern, single-leaf, steel-paneled pedestrian door. The remaining bays consist of 12-light windows that rest on concrete sills. The south and east elevations were not accessible during the site visit.

#### **Interior Description**

The interior of the Harry Footer and Company Cleaners was inaccessible during the site visit.

#### **Surrounding Landscape**

The Harry Footer and Company Cleaners sits on the south side of the National Highway (ALT US 40) at the southeastern corner of its intersection with South Woodlawn Avenue. The area fronting the National Highway (ALT US 40) is paved. Small, grass-covered areas are located along the west and south sides of the building. The remainder of the property consists of gravel drives that access the vehicular bays on the south elevations.

8. Signi	ficance		Inventory No. AL- V-B-345
Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below	

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and j	ustify below	
1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899 1900-1999 2000-	agriculture archeology architecture art X commerce communications community planning conservation	economics education engineering entertainment/ recreation ethnic heritage exploration/ settlement	health/medicine industry invention landscape architect law literature maritime history military	performing arts philosophy politics/government ture religion science social history transportation other:
Specific dates	Unknown		Architect/Builder (	Jnknown
Construction d	lates Ca. 1950			
Evaluation for:				
X	_National Register		laryland Register	not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

#### The Dry Cleaning Industry in Cumberland, Maryland and Vicinity

Thomas Footer established the Footer Dye Works in Cumberland Maryland in the late 1870s. By the late 1910s, the operation was "the largest and most complete business of its kind in the country." At its heyday, the company employed nearly 500 people and "processed fabrics from cities through the eastern section of the country. The care which the employees took with each item and the size of the business later made the company vulnerable to competition from the less expensive quick-order cleaning operations that emerged after World War I." The operation permanently closed in July 1937, a victim of the Depression and the increased competition brought on by the corner dry cleaning business.

Harry Footer, son of Thomas, later established a small operation—similar to the ones that drove his father's company out of business—on North Liberty Street in Cumberland.<sup>4</sup> By 1944, the operation—known as Harry Footer & Company—was under the management of Albert E. Keyser and George L. Barker.<sup>5</sup> The business encountered financial difficulties within the next few years and was sold at public sale to Edward Pallik and Charles Zaks in 1946.<sup>6</sup>

The year following their purchase of the North Liberty Street operation, Edward Pallik and Charles Zaks purchased six lots fronting the National Highway (ALT US 40)—and part of the LaVale Home Addition—in LaVale, Maryland. It was not until 1950 that Pallik and Zaks erected the main block of the brick-faced structure known today as 918 National Highway (ALT US 40). That same year, Pallik and Zaks purchased three additional lots along South Woodlawn Avenue. In addition to their establishment of the National Highway (ALT US 40) operation, Pallik and Zaks took over other corner-type cleaning establishments in Cumberland within the next few years. The Cumberland City Directory for 1952 indicated the company included operations at 36 North Liberty Street, 27 South

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Stegmaier, Harry I., David M. Dean, Gordon E. Kershaw, and John B. Wiseman. *Allegany County A History* (McClain Printing Company: Parsons, West Virginia, 1976) 219.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ibid., 219.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ibid., 354.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Personal telephone Interview with Howard Pallik, March 16, 2006.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Polk, R.L., & Co., Polk's Cumberland (Allegany County, Maryland) City Directory 1944, (R.L. Polk & Company, Publishers, 1944) n.p.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Personal telephone interview with Howard Pallik, March 16, 2006.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Allegany County Land Record Liber 218, Folio 424.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Personal telephone interview with Howard Pallik, March 16, 2006; Allegany County Land Record Liber 234, Folio 424.

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Name Harry Footer and Company Cleaners Continuation Sheet

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Centre Street, and 306 Virginia Avenue. Curiously, the directory made no mention of the LaVale operations, although both Pallik and Zaks resided in the suburb.

Pallik and Zaks purchased two additional lots—immediately southeast of their 1947 purchase and west of their 1950 purchase—in 1961. It appears that the three-bay, brick-faced garage located southeast of the building was erected after 1964 based on an examination of a 1964 video of the National Highway corridor. Pallik and Zaks remained in partnership until 1971, when Charles Zak's interest in the property was conveyed to Edward Pallik.

According to Howard Pallik, son of Edward Pallik, the "drive-in" depicted on the signage is a misnomer. Edward Pallik apparently became enamored with the term and erected the sign sometime after 1964, likely in the 1970s. <sup>12</sup> Edward Pallik owned Harry Footer and Company Cleaners until 1986, when it was purchased by his son, Howard, and daughter-in-law, Kathleen. <sup>13</sup> Footer and Company Cleaners continues to serve LaVale today.

The building's wing is no longer in use by the Footer and Company Cleaners and has been converted to warehouse space. Two multilight window bays have been replaced with pedestrian doors for access to the warehouse space.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Polk's Cumberland (Allegany County, Maryland) City Directory 1952 Including Ridgeley, West Virginia (R.L. Polk & Company, Publishers, Pittsburgh, 1953) 132, 306, 459.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> J.F. Zimmerman, Footage along National Highway in LaVale, Maryland taken for Super 8 Motel on 27-28 October 1964 (LaVale, Maryland: LaVale Zoning Board, 1964), videocassette.

<sup>11</sup> Allegany County Land Record Liber 444, Folio 341.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Personal telephone interview with Howard Pallik, March 16, 2006.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Allegany County Land Record Liber 558, Folio 340.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. AL-V-B-345

Allegany County Clerk. Allegany County Land Records. On file at the Allegany County Clerks Office, Allegany County Courthouse, Cumberland, Maryland.

Dluzak, Catherine. Personal telephone interview with Harry Pallik 16 March 2006. Notes on file in Camp Hill, PA.

Polk, R.L., & Co., Polk's Cumberland (Allegany County, Maryland) City Directory 1944. R.L. Polk & Company, Publishers: Pittsburgh, PA, 1944.

Stegmaier, Harry I. David M. Dean, Gordon E. Kershaw, and John B. Wiseman. *Allegany County A History*. McClain Printing Company: Parsons, West Virginia, 1976.

Zimmerman, J.F. Footage along National Highway in LaVale, Maryland taken for Super 8 Motel on 27-28 October 1964. LaVale, Maryland: LaVale Zoning Board, 1964. Videocassette.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property
Acreage of historical setting
Quadrangle name

19,500.00 square feet
19,500.00 square feet
Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

#### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary for the Harry Footer and Company Cleaners, located at 918 National Highway (ALT US 40, includes the existing tax parcel (025711). This boundary provides sufficient setting for the resource and encompasses all the historic features of the property that directly contribute to its period of significance (1950-1956) as is required by *Defining Boundaries for National Register Properties* (National Park Service 1997).

11. Form Prepared by							
	Catherine Dluzak, Barbara Frederick, Emma Young	W to					
organization	A.D. Marble & Company	date	March 27, 2006				
street & number	10989 Red Run Blvd., Suite 209	telephone	(410) 902-1421				
city or town	Owings Mills	state	MD				

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

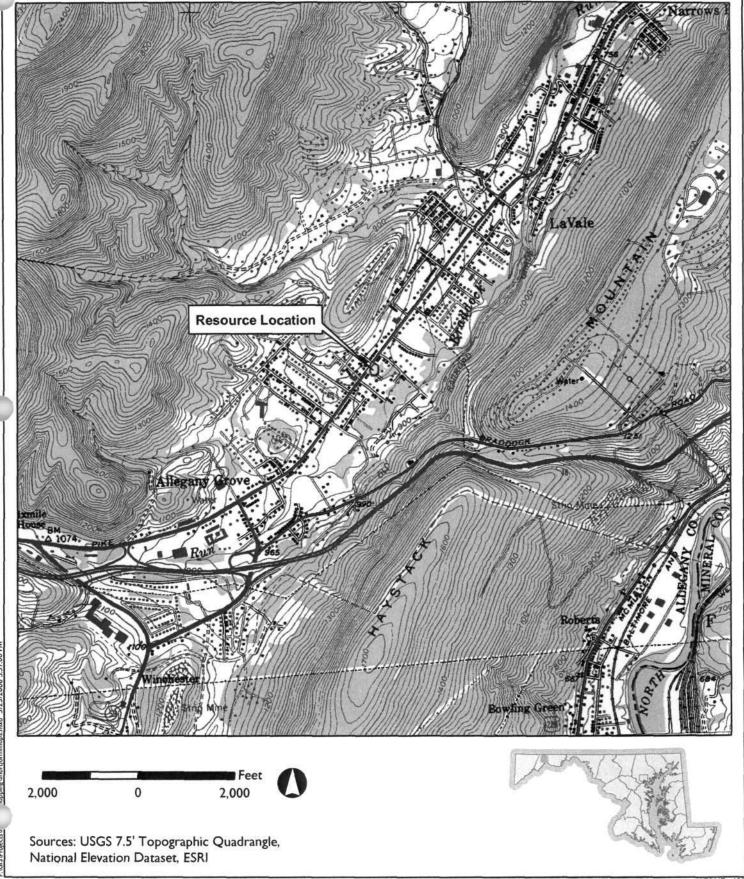
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust DHCD/DHCP 100 Community Place Crownsville, MD 21032-2023 410-514-7600

## Harry Footer & Company Cleaners (AL-V-B-345)

ALT US 40 Streetscape Improvements LaVale, Allegany County, Maryland



ADM ID: 100



AL-V-B-345 Harry Footer & Company Cleaners Allegany County, MD B. Frederick 03.2006 MD SHPO north i west elevations, view to SE 1/9



AL-V-B-345 Harry Footer & Company Cleaners Allegany County, MD B. Frederick 03.2006 MD SHPO

north i west elevations; view to SE

2/9



AL-V-B-345 Harry Footer i Company Cleaners Allegany county, MD B. Frederick 03.2006 MD SHPO north i west elevations; view to SE 3/9



Herry Footer i Company Cleaners
Allegany County, MD

B. Frederick
03.2006

MD SHPO

Morth : east elevations, view to SW 4/9



AL-V-B-345 Harry Footer & Company Chaners Allegany County, MD B. Frederick 03.2006 MD SHPO Borth & east elevations, view to SW 5/9



AL-V-B-345 Harry Footer i Company Cleaners Allegany County, MD B. Frederick 03.2006 MD SHPO North & east elevations, view to SW 619



AL-V-B-345 Harry Footer i Company Cleaners Allegany County, MD B. Frederick 03.2006 MD SHPO south (rear) i west elevations; view to NE 7/9



AL-V-B345 Harry Footer i Company Cleaners Allegany County, MD B. Fredenck 03.2006 MD SHPO Detail of sign-borth elevation-view-to SW 819



AL-V-B-345 Harry Footer i Company Cleaners Allegary County, MD B. Fredenck 03.2006 MDSHPO garage; west i worth elevations; view to se